

FRIDAY FANFARE - MARCH 6, 2026

NEWSLETTER


MTSU
*School
of Music*

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dr. Jennifer Snodgrass, Director - jennifer.snodgrass@mtsu.edu



I believe in excellence in musicianship. I believe in great teaching. I believe in integrity in every decision and action. And I believe—wholeheartedly—in joy.

This past Saturday, I saw all of those come to life.

On our final scholarship audition day this past Saturday, we welcomed more than 70 prospective students to campus, each one came ready to share their talent. Across so many studios and at every level, great teaching is happening—and it shows. Behind the scenes, our staff and faculty worked seamlessly to create a smooth, thoughtful, and fair audition experience full of integrity. Every detail was handled with care. That kind of integrity matters—and it was evident in the process. And then, there was the joy.

The sun was shining. The building was buzzing. Students were greeted by the newest (and most animated) member of our School of Music family: our wacky waving inflatable tube man—still awaiting the perfect name! He quickly became the unofficial photo booth, cheering students on before auditions and celebrating with them afterward. I watched members of SOMSAC proudly guiding students through the building, sharing why they chose the School of Music at MTSU and what makes this place special. Those conversations—student to student—are powerful. They reflect community. They reflect belonging. They reflect joy.

Next week, we pause for Spring Break. Many of our students will head home for a well-deserved rest. But the music doesn't stop. We'll soon welcome instrumental programs from across the region for CPA (Concert Performance Assessment), filling the recital hall with performance, feedback, and growth. We can't wait to see alumni and parents back on campus.

Until then, I wish our entire music community a time of rest and reflection. Come back refreshed. Come back strong. The next Friday Fanfare will arrive on March 20. The music continues. 🎵

MTSU
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

WIND ENSEMBLE *In* **CONCERT**

Featuring
BRYAN HAYSLETT, cello



1

GALAN TRIO

presents
Kinesis



Monday, March 16, 2026
8:00 P.M.

Hinton Hall, Middle Tennessee State University

Premieres of works by Loew, Gendelman, Slayton, Lavenda, Mathenia, Osterfield, and Volker

The Galan Trio's residency is funded by the MTSU Distinguished Lecture Fund and the MTSU School of Music.

 **MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY**
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

 **Voss Violins** LLC The cello for this concert is generously supported by Voss Violins LLC.

FEATURED FACULTY: EUNBYOL KO, PIANO

Dr. Eunbyol Ko, a native of South Korea, is recognized for her artistry and thoughtful musicianship as a soloist, chamber artist, and concerto performer. Her international career has brought her to major venues across Europe, Asia, Australia, and North America, including the Sejong Arts Center in Seoul and the Mozarteum Great Hall in Salzburg. A prizewinner in numerous national and international competitions, she is also a sought after collaborator and festival pianist. A dedicated teacher and presenter, Ko's students have earned national honors and appeared on NPR's From the Top. She holds degrees from CCM and Indiana University and now serves on the faculty at MTSU.



MTSU's Angela Tipps has been hard at work alongside these students, sharing music, encouragement, and real connection in the rehearsal room. Experiences like this remind us how strong our local music community is when we learn and grow together. We love partnering with area school choirs and supporting the next generation of singers.



MTSU
School of Music

MTSU CENTER FOR CHINESE MUSIC AND CULTURE 10th Anniversary Celebration Concert



FEATURING YAZHI GUO

A world-leading performer of Chinese wind instruments and a member of the Silk Road Ensemble



HAIQIONG DENG
Florida State University



YUXIN MEI
University of North Texas



JINGYI ZHAN
Shaanxi Normal University



BEITONG LIU
Bard College
Conservatory of Music

Saturday, March 21 • 7:30 p.m.

Hinton Music Hall, Wright Music Building, MTSU

With **MTSU Jazz Faculty**, **MTSU Chinese Music Ensemble** and alumni, and **Middle Tennessee Community Zheng Ensemble**

Led by **Mei Han**, Director, Center for Chinese Music and Culture

Presented by MTSU International Affairs, MTSU School of Music, MTSU Center for Chinese Music and Culture, and the Distinguished Lecture Fund

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Office of International Affairs



Last Tuesday, Schola Cantorum honored the memory of Evan Wallace, a father, a husband, and a man of many talents. Through the organization Sing Me a Story, we commissioned a piece from MTSU student composer **James Orme**. The music and text were inspired by Evan's two sons. That work culminated in a debut performance with Evan's friend and family present. Schola would like to thank Sing Me a Story for facilitating this moment and James Orme for his beautiful work.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday, March 9 – MTSBOA CPA, 7:30 am (Hinton Music Hall)
- Tuesday, March 10 – MTSBOA CPA, 7:30 am (Hinton Music Hall)
- Wednesday, March 11 – MTSBOA CPA, 7:30 am (Hinton Music Hall)
- Sunday, March 15 – Middle TN Sinfonietta Concert, 3:00 pm (Hinton Music Hall)



The FRIDAY FANFARE is a weekly newsletter of the MTSU School of Music edited by Dr. Chris Combest - chris.combest@mtsu.edu

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Share your Alumni news at <https://forms.office.com/r/8Eu72excj6>

To learn more about our programs and events at the School of Music, please visit music.mtsu.edu.